

What is claimed is:

1. A video image data compression archiver comprising:
 - an encoder compressing non-compressed video image data to generate compressed video image data; and
 - an encoder controller connected to said encoder to
 - 5 control a frame size, a frame rate, and an average bit rate of said compressed video image data in response to at least one parameter selected from a group consisting of:
 - a number of frames of said non-compressed video image data,
- 10 a recording time of said non-compressed video image data, and
 - a free area of a recording medium for recording said compressed video image data.
2. The video image data archiver according to claim 1, wherein said encoder controller decides said average bit rate in response to said at least one parameter, and decides said frame size and said frame rate based on said average bit rate.
3. The video image data archiver according to claim 1, wherein said encoder controller monitors said free area of said recording medium, and modifies at least one of said frame size, said frame rate, and said average bit rate when detecting a change
- 5 in said free area of said recording medium.

4. The video image data archiver according to claim 3,
wherein said encoder controller decreases at least one of said of
5 said frame size, said frame rate, and said average bit rate when
detecting a decreases in said free area of said recording medium.

5. The video image data archiver according to claim 3,
wherein said encoder controller increases at least one of said frame
size, said frame rate, and said average bit rate when detecting an
increase in said free area of said recording medium.

6. The video image data archiver according to claim 1,
wherein said encoder controller monitors said number of said
frames of said non-compressed video image data, and modifies at
lease one of said frame size, said frame rate, and said average bit
5 rate, when detecting a change in said number of said frames of said
non-compressed video image data.

7. The video image data archiver according to claim 6,
wherein said encoder controller decreases at least one of said frame
size, said frame rate, and said average bit rate, when detecting an
increase in said number of said frames of said non-compressed
5 video image data.

8. The video image data archiver according to claim 6,
wherein said encoder controller increases at least one of said

frame size, said frame rate, and said average bit rate, when
detecting a decrease in said number of said frames of said non-
5 compressed video image data.

9. The video image data archiver according to claim 1,
wherein said encoder controller monitors said recording time of
said non-compressed video image data, and modifies at least one of
said frame size, said frame rate, and said average bit rate when
5 detecting a change in said recording time.

10. The video image data archiver according to claim 9,
wherein said encoder controller decreases at least one of said frame
size, said frame rate, and said average bit rate when detecting an
increase in said recording time of said original video image.

11. The video image data archiver according to claim 9,
wherein said encoder controller increases at least one of said frame
size, said frame rate, and said average bit rate when detecting a
decrease in said recording time of said original video image.

12. A video image data compression archiver comprising:
an encoder compressing non-compressed video image data
to generate compressed video image data; and
an encoder controller connected to said encoder to control
5 a frame size, and an average bit rate of said compressed video
image data in response to at least one parameter selected from a

group consisting of:

 a number of frames of said non-compressed video image data,

10 a recording time of said non-compressed video image data, and

 a free area of a recording medium for recording said compressed video image data.

13. The video image data archiver according to claim 12, wherein said encoder controller decides said average bit rate in response to said at least one parameter, and decides said frame size based on said average bit rate.

14. The video image data archiver according to claim 12, wherein said encoder controller monitors said free area of said recording medium, and modifies at least one of said frame size, and said average bit rate when detecting a change in said free area of 5 said recording medium.

15. The video image data archiver according to claim 12, wherein said encoder controller monitors said number of said frames of said non-compressed video image data, and modifies at least one of said frame size, and said average bit rate when 5 detecting a change in said number of said frames of said non-compressed video image data.

16. The video image data archiver according to claim 12,
wherein said encoder controller monitors said recording time of
said frames of said non-compressed video image data, and modifies
at least one of said frame size, and said average bit rate when
5 detecting a change in said recording time of said non-compressed
video image data.

17. A video image data compression archiver comprising:
an encoder compressing non-compressed video image data
to generate compressed video image data; and
an encoder controller connected to said encoder to control
5 a frame rate, and an average bit rate of said compressed video
image data in response to at least one parameter selected from a
group consisting of:
a number of frames of said non-compressed video
image data,
10 a recording time of said non-compressed video image
data, and
a free area of a recording medium for recording said
compressed video image data.

18. The video image data archiver according to claim 17,
wherein said encoder controller decides said average bit rate in
response to said at least one parameter, and decides said frame rate
based on said average bit rate.

19. The video image data archiver according to claim 17, wherein said encoder controller monitors said free area of said recording medium, and modifies at least one of said frame rate, and said average bit rate, when detecting a change in said free area of
5 said recording medium.

20. The video image data archiver according to claim 17, wherein said encoder controller monitors said number of said frames of said non-compressed video image data, and modifies at least one of said frame rate, and said average bit rate, when
5 detecting a change in said number of said frames of said non-compressed video image data.

21. The video image data archiver according to claim 17, wherein said encoder controller monitors said recording time of said frames of said non-compressed video image data, and modifies at least one of said frame rate, and said average bit rate, when
5 detecting a change in said recording time of said non-compressed video image data.

22. A method for archiving video image data comprising:
compressing non-compressed video image data to generate compressed video image data;
recording said compressed video image data in a recording
5 medium; and
controlling an average bit rate, a frame size, and a frame rate of said compressed video image data in response to at least one

parameter selected from a group consisting of:

 a number of frames of said non-compressed video

10 image data,

 a recording time of said non-compressed video image data, and

 a free area of a recording medium for recording said compressed video image data.

23. The method according to claim 22, wherein said controlling includes deciding said frame size and said frame rate based on said average bit rate.

24. A method for archiving video image data comprising:

 compressing non-compressed video image data to generate compressed video image data;

 recording said compressed video image data in a recording 5 medium; and

 controlling an average bit rate, and a frame size of said compressed video image data in response to at least one parameter selected from a group consisting of:

 a number of frames of said non-compressed video 10 image data,

 a recording time of said non-compressed video image data, and

 a free area of a recording medium for recording said compressed video image data.

25. The method according to claim 24, wherein said controlling includes deciding said frame size based on said average bit rate.

26. A method for archiving video image data comprising:
compressing non-compressed video image data to generate
compressed video image data;
recording said compressed video image data in a recording
5 medium; and
controlling an average bit rate, and a frame rate of said
compressed video image data in response to at least one parameter
selected from a group consisting of:
a number of frames of said non-compressed video
10 image data,
a recording time of said non-compressed video image
data, and
a free area of a recording medium for recording said
compressed video image data.

27. The method according to claim 26, wherein said controlling includes deciding said frame rate based on said average bit rate.